7th Anti-Aircraft Division (1)

Headquarters, 7th Anti-Aircraft Division

30th (Northumbrian) Anti-Aircraft Brigade (2)

Headquarters, 30th (Northumbrian) Anti-Aircraft Brigade & Signal Section

63rd (Northumbrian) Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery (3) (H.Q., 176th (County of Durham), 177th (County of Durham), 178th (County of Durham) & 269th Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Royal Artillery)

64th (Northumbrian) Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery (4) (H.Q., 179th (Tynemouth), 180th (Tynemouth) & 268th (Durham) Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Royal Artillery)

87th Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery (5)

(H.Q., 278th, 279th & 280th Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Royal Artillery)

37th (Tyne Electrical Engineers) Anti-Aircraft Battalion, Royal Engineers (6) (H.Q., 307th, 308th 348th & 349th Anti-Aircraft Companies, Royal Engineers)

5th Bn. The Royal Northumberland Fusiliers (53rd Searchlight Regiment) (7) (H.Q., 408th, 409th & 410th Anti-Aircraft Companies, Royal Engineers)

30th Anti-Aircraft Brigade Company, Royal Army Service Corps

31st (North Midland) Anti-Aircraft Brigade (8)

Headquarters, 31st (North Midland) Anti-Aircraft Brigade & Signal Section

66th (Leeds Rifles) Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery (9) (H.Q., 184th, 185th & 197th Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Royal Artillery)

96th Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery (10)

(H.Q., 186th, 287th, 295th & 296th Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Royal Artillery)

43rd (5th Duke of Wellington's Regiment) Anti-Aircraft Battalion, Royal Engineers (11) (H.Q., 370th, 371st, 372nd & 373rd Anti-Aircraft Companies, Royal Engineers)

49th (The West Yorkshire Regiment) Anti-Aircraft Battalion, Royal Engineers (12) (H.Q., 395th, 396th, 397th & 398th Anti-Aircraft Companies, Royal Engineers)

31st Anti-Aircraft Brigade Company, Royal Army Service Corps

39th Anti-Aircraft Brigade (13)

Headquarters, 39th Anti-Aircraft Brigade & Signal Section

- 62nd (Northumbrian) Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery (14) (H.Q., 172nd (1st East Riding), 173rd (2nd East Riding) & 266th (3rd East Riding) Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Royal Artillery)
- 67th (The York and Lancaster Regiment) Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery (15) (H.Q., 187th, 188th, 189th & 198th Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Royal Artillery)
- 91st Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery (16) (H.Q., 221st (1st West Riding), 270th (Wentworth) & 286th Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Royal Artillery)
- 40th (The Sherwood Foresters) Anti-Aircraft Battalion, Royal Engineers (17) (H.Q., 358th, 359th, 360th & 361st Anti-Aircraft Companies, Royal Engineers)
- 46th (The Lincolnshire Regiment) Anti-Aircraft Battalion, Royal Engineers (18) (H.Q., 382nd, 383rd, 384th & 385th Anti-Aircraft Companies, Royal Engineers)
- 39th Anti-Aircraft Brigade Company, Royal Army Service Corps

43rd Anti-Aircraft Brigade (19)

Headquarters, 43rd Anti-Aircraft Brigade & Signal Section

- 85th (Tees) Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery (20) (H.Q., 174th (1st North Riding), 175th (2nd North Riding) & 220th (County of Durham) Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Royal Artillery)
- 47th (The Durham Light Infantry) Anti-Aircraft Battalion, Royal Engineers (21) (H.Q., 386th, 387th, 388th & 389th Anti-Aircraft Companies, Royal Engineers)
- 1st/5th Bn. The Durham Light Infantry (54th Searchlight Regiment) (22) (H.Q., 411th, 412th & 413th Anti-Aircraft Batteries)
- 2nd/5th Bn. The Durham Light Infantry (55th Searchlight Regiment) (23) (H.Q., 414th, 415th & 416th Anti-Aircraft Batteries)
- 43rd Anti-Aircraft Brigade Company, Royal Army Service Corps

57th Light Anti-Aircraft Brigade (24)

Headquarters, 57th Light Anti-Aircraft Brigade & Signal Section

13th Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery (25) (H.Q., 37th, 38th & 122nd Light Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Royal Artillery)

28th Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery (26)

(H.Q., 53rd, 112th & 113th Light Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Royal Artillery)

29th Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery (27)

(H.Q., 108th & 121st Light Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Royal Artillery)

30th Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery (28) (H.Q., 117th, 118th & 120th Light Anti-Aircraft Batteries, Royal Artillery)

57th Anti-Aircraft Brigade Company, Royal Army Service Corps

Divisional Troops

7th Anti-Aircraft Divisional Signals, Royal Corps of Signals.

7th Anti-Aircraft Divisional Workshops, Royal Army Ordnance Corps

NOTES:

- 1. This division was formed in June 1939, with its headquarters based in Newcastle-on-Tyne and responsible for the anti-aircraft defences of the North East, Yorkshire and the Humber. Its first General Officer Commanding (Major General Thomas George Gordon HEYWOOD, O.B.E.) was appointed on 23 June 1939. He was posted to India, so was replaced by Major General (Acting) J. E. T. YOUNGER for nine days before Major General (Acting) Robert Beverly PARGITER, *i.d.c.*, *p.s.c.* was appointed the permanent commander with effect from 10 January 1940. With the reorganisation of Anti-Aircraft Command in November 1940, the division lost responsibility for Yorkshire and the Humber, which came under the 10th Anti-Aircraft Division. It was under command of III Anti-Aircraft Corps. The new G.O.C. was Major General (Acting) Eric Victor Howard FAIRTLOUGH, D.S.O., M.C.. He was taken ill on 18 June 1942, so Major General (Acting) John Nuttall SLATER, C.M.G. was appointed upon his return from the Middle East. The division disbanded on 30 September 1942, being absorbed by the new 7th Anti-Aircraft Group.
- 2. This brigade was raised on 1 November 1936, at Sunderland. It was responsible for the anti-aircraft defences of the Tyne and Wear Rivers, including Newcastle and Sunderland.
- 3. In 1936, the 55th (Northumbrian) Medium Brigade was converted into an anti-aircraft brigade (regiment). The Headquarters, 176th and 178th Batteries were based at the Drill Hall, The Green, Sunderland, with 177th and 269th Batteries being based at Seaham Harbour. The Regiment left the U.K. in May 1942 to move to Ceylon. It arrived there in July, and stayed on the island until April 1944, firstly under command of 1st R.M. Anti-Aircraft Brigade and then from March 1943, 24th Anti-Aircraft Brigade. In April 1944, it moved to Jubbulpore, where on the 1st August, it was placed in suspended animation. Some personnel formed the 63rd Medium Battery, which joined the 87th Medium Regiment. As such it remained in India until disbanded in May 1945.
- 4. This regiment was formed in 1936 from batteries from the 51st and 54th Medium Brigades. The Headquarters and 179th Batteries were based in North Shields, 180th Battery was based in Seaton, and the 268th Battery at Consett. The Regiment left the U.K. in May 1943 to travel to North Africa. It served in Italy with 8th Army, transferring to N. W. Europe to serve with 2nd Army in February 1945 until the end of the war.
- 5. Raised in April 1939, this regiment was based in Hebburn-on-Tyne. It remained in the U.K. until August 1942, when it moved to North Africa to come under command of 8th Army. It served in Italy with 8th Army, being placed in suspended animation in November 1944.
- 6. This R.E. battalion was formed in 1936 by the expansion of the 37th (Tyne) Anti-Aircraft Company. The Headquarters, 307th and 308th Companies were based in Tynemouth, with 348th and 349th Companies being based in Heaton. In January 1940, it was redesignated as the 37th Searchlight Regiment, Royal Artillery. The regiment served in the U.K. throughout the war.
- 7. The infantry unit was converted into an anti-aircraft role in 1938. In August 1940, it was absorbed into the Royal Artillery as the 53rd (Royal Northumberland Fusiliers) Searchlight Regiment. It remained in the U.K. until January 1945, when it converted back to an infantry unit as the 638th Infantry Regiment, Royal Artillery. It served with the 304th Infantry Brigade in the U.K. and Norway.
- 8. This brigade was raised on 1 November 1936 at Retford, Nottinghamshire. It later moved to York, the county town of Yorkshire.

- 9. The Leeds Rifles, a long standing volunteer army regiment, was based at Carlton Barracks in Leeds. It became the 7th (Leeds Rifles) Bn. The West Yorkshire Regiment (Prince of Wales's Own). In 1936, it converted from an infantry to an anti-aircraft role. All four batteries were based at Carlton Barracks. The regiment left the U.K. in March 1942 to travel to India. There it joined the 9th Anti-Aircraft Brigade and served in Burma until April 1944. In that month, it moved back to India, where it was placed in suspended animation in April 1945.
- 10. The 96th Anti-Aircraft Regiment was raised in April 1939. The Headquarters and 294th Batteries were based in Castleford, Yorkshire. The 295th and 296th Batteries were based in Halifax, with the 287th Battery being based in Pontefract. The 186th Battery was based at Oulton, which is between Leeds and Wakefield in Yorkshire. The regiment remained in the United Kingdom until August 1942, after which it moved to the Middle East. It was placed in suspended animation in June 1944.
- 11. In 1936, the 5th Bn. The Duke of Wellington's Regiment converted from being an infantry battalion to become a searchlight battalion of the Royal Engineers. The headquarters and all four companies were based at St. Paul's Street, Huddersfield. In August 1940, this battalion transferred to the Royal Artillery as the 43rd Searchlight Regiment. The regiment served in the U.K. through to October 1944, when it converted to become the 43rd Garrison Regiment.
- 12. The 6th Bn. The West Yorkshire Regiment (Prince of Wales's Own) was converted from an infantry to a searchlight role as the 49th (The West Yorkshire Regiment) Anti-Aircraft Battalion, Royal Engineers. The headquarters and all four companies were based at Bradford. October 1944, this regiment was converted into the 49th Garrison Regiment.
- 13. Raised on 29 September 1938, the headquarters of this brigade moved from Retford in Nottinghamshire to R.A.F. Digby in Lincolnshire. Its task was to defend airfields and other vulnerable points in Lincolnshire and along the River Humber.
- 14. This regiment was formed in 1936 by the conversion of the 73rd (Northumbrian) Field Brigade, Royal Artillery. The headquarters and three batteries were based in Hull. The regiment moved to North Africa in November 1942, then going on to serve in Italy until the end of the war.
- 15. In 1936, the 5th Bn. The York and Lancaster Regiment was converted from an infantry role to that of an anti-aircraft regiment. The headquarters and four batteries were based at the Drill Hall, Wharncliffe Street, Rotherham, in south Yorkshire. The regiment left the U.K. in September 1941 to sail for the Middle East. It spent only a month in the Middle East, being sent to India after Japan entered the war. The regiment served in India and Burma until the end of the war. Between October 1944 and January 1945, the men served as infantry under command of IV Corps.
- 16. The 91st Heavy Anti-Aircraft Regiment was raised April 1939 upon the expansion of the Territorial Army. The 221st Battery, based at York, transferred into the new regiment from the 62nd (Northumbrian) Anti-Aircraft Regiment. The 270th Battery was based at Wentworth, a village to the north-east of Rotherham in Yorkshire. The regimental headquarters and 286th Battery were based in Goole, in the East Riding of Yorkshire. The regiment moved to Palestine, arriving there in October 1942. It went on to serve in Italy from February 1944 until the regiment was placed in suspended animation in July 1944.
- 17. This was one of the infantry battalions converted to an anti-aircraft role in 1936. Formerly the 6th Bn. The Sherwood Foresters, the headquarters and four companies were based in Chesterfield, Derbyshire. The battalion became a searchlight battalion within the Royal Engineers upon conversion. Transferring to the Royal Artillery in August 1940 as the 40th Searchlight Regiment, it served as a searchlight unit in Home Forces until June 1943. In that month, it converted into the 149th Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery.

- 18. In 1936, the 5th Bn. The Lincolnshire Regiment, based at Grimsby, also converted into a searchlight anti-aircraft battalion of the Royal Engineers. This unit remained a searchlight unit right through until November 1944, when it was converted into the 46th Garrison Regiment.
- 19. The headquarters of this brigade was raised on 1 October 1938 at West Hartlepool, in County Durham.
- 20. This regiment was formed in 1938, with batteries from the 63rd and 64th Anti-Aircraft Brigades. The Regimental Headquarters was formed at Middlesbrough, where the 174th and 175th Batteries were based, having transferred from the 64th Anti-Aircraft Brigade. The 220th Battery, which transferred from the 63rd Anti-Aircraft Brigade, was based at West Hartlepool. This regiment was sent to join the British Expeditionary Force in France in November 1939. Having been evacuated in May 1940, it served with Home Forces until leaving for North Africa in June 1943. It then served in Italy from September 1943 until disbanded in October 1944.
- 21. The headquarters of this battalion, together with the 386th, 387th and 388th Companies were all based at Sunderland. The 389th Company was based in South Shields. This unit was formed in 1936 by the conversion of the 7th Bn. The Durham Light Infantry into a searchlight battalion of the Royal Engineers. In August 1940, it became the 47th Searchlight Regiment, Royal Artillery, when all searchlight units were consolidated into the Royal Artillery. In January 1942, this regiment was converted to become the 11th Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery. As such, it served with Home Forces until March 1944, when it came under command of 2nd Army. It landed in Normandy in June 1944, serving throughout the campaign in North West Europe.
- 22. The 5th Bn. The Durham Light Infantry was based in the south of the county, with its headquarters located at Stockton-on-Tees. In 1938, it was converted into a searchlight unit. It then duplicated in April 1939 to form the 54th Searchlight Regiment. The headquarters and three companies were based at Stockton-on-Tees. The regiment was incorporated into the Royal Artillery in August 1940. It served in the U.K. until February 1945, when it transferred to Italy to serve with 8th Army.
- 23. The 2nd/5th Bn. The Durham Light Infantry was based in West Hartlepool, and formed the 55th Searchlight Regiment. Like its sister regiment, it was incorporated into the Royal Artillery in August 1940. It served in the United Kingdom until January 1942, when it converted into the 113th Light Anti-Aircraft Regiment, Royal Artillery. It remained in the U.K., joining 2nd Army in March 1944. It served with 2nd Army throughout the campaign in North West Europe.
- 24. This brigade was raised on 25 August 1939, i.e., just before the outbreak of the Second World War. Its headquarters were based in Newcastle-on-Tyne.
- 25. Raised in August 1938, this was one of the first three light anti-aircraft regiments formed in the Territorial Army. The Headquarters, 37th and 38th Batteries were based at Hillsborough in Sheffield. The 122nd Battery was in the process of being raised with effect from the 3rd September 1939 as a mobile light anti-aircraft battery. The regiment left the U.K. in November 1940 having been properly equipped and trained. It arrived in Egypt in January 1941 where it was deployed on anti-aircraft defence. It moved to Tobruk in June 1941, leaving with the end of the siege the following month. The regiment remained in the Middle East, moving to join 9th Army in Palestine in August 1942. It returned to Egypt in January 1943. In September 1943, the regiment joined the 12th Anti-Aircraft Brigade in Italy. It served in Italy throughout the war, transferring to the 66th Anti-Aircraft Brigade in March 1945.

- 26. One of the batch of fourteen light anti-aircraft regiments raised in August 1939 as war loomed, the Headquarters and 112th L.A.A. Battery were based in Nottingham. The 113th L.A.A. Battery was being raised in Warwick, and the 53rd L.A.A. Battery in Derby. The regiment served in the U.K. until December 1941, when it sailed for India. On arrival, it was deployed initially in Calcutta, moving to join IV Corps on the Eastern Frontier of India in May 1942. The regiment served in Assam during the main battles of early 1944. It was withdrawn back to India in October 1944 for resting and refitting. It returned to Assam in January 1945 to come under command of the 17th Indian Infantry Division. The next month, the regiment returned to the command of IV Corps for the rest of the Burma campaign.
- 27. Another of the batch of regiments raised in August 1939, the headquarters of this unit were based in Grimsby, north Lincolnshire. The two batteries were deployed to protect R.A.F. airfields in Norfolk, with a Troop at each airfield covered. Leaving the U.K. in November 1942, the regiment moved to Tunisia. It went on to serve in Italy with the 8th Army and the 66th Anti-Aircraft Brigade until the end of the war.
- 28. Raised in August 1939, this regiment has its headquarters based in Ipswich. The three batteries were deployed to protect ten R.A.F. airfields across East Anglia. One troop was deployed to each airfield. In August 1941, the regiment moved to Egypt to join the 8th Army. In April 1942, it came under command of the 44th Infantry Division until that division was disbanded in November 1942. In October 1943, the regiment moved from Egypt to Syria, where it joined the 20th Anti-Aircraft Brigade. In February 1944, the regiment joined the 10th Indian Infantry Division, serving with that formation in Italy. In November 1944, it left the division to come under command of the 12th Anti-Aircraft Brigade in Italy. With the end of hostilities, it came under the direct command of Allied Forces Headquarters.

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